

When the ACA was challenged years ago, the Supreme Court upheld it by a 5-to-4 vote. We are one vote away from the decimation of our healthcare rights at a time when nearly 7 million Americans have contracted COVID-19.

The threat is not only to the ACA but also to women's reproductive healthcare, our environmental protections, and what is left of our campaign finance limits. So we know why they are moving at a record pace to fill this seat.

But while the President and the majority leader want to rush through a lifetime Justice in just a few weeks, COVID relief has languished on Senator MCCONNELL's desk for months. Millions of Americans are out of work. Small businesses are closing their doors. Schools can't reopen safely. Parents are burning the candle at both ends, working and caring for kids at home. State, local, and Tribal governments can't meet budgets for essential services.

The American people desperately need another relief package, but the Senate Republicans and the President don't think there is any urgency. Leader MCCONNELL said that himself.

According to the President, COVID-19 "affects virtually nobody." The President said that—"affects virtually nobody."

This virus that "affects virtually nobody" is the third leading cause of death in the United States, has taken more lives in 8 short months than the Vietnam and Middle East wars combined, and has sent our economy into a nosedive not seen since the Great Depression.

We talk a lot about priorities here in the Senate. Right now you are seeing Senate Republican priorities in stark relief. They will rush a lifetime Supreme Court pick in weeks—violating every principle they established themselves—to please their far-right donors. But they will neglect relief for you—for struggling families, for people out of work, for people sick and dying—for months.

Finally, we cannot ignore the fact that the President has explicitly said he wants to fill this vacancy to help decide the 2020 election in his favor. He has repeatedly lied that absentee ballots, votes from Democratic areas, or votes that are tabulated after election day are somehow fraudulent.

And like an authoritarian, he does not even try to correct himself when his lies are debunked. Instead, he openly admits he wants the Supreme Court to decide the election by disqualifying votes he does not like and even refuses to commit to a peaceful transfer of power.

The Senate should not become an accomplice to this corrupt scheme that threatens the future of our democracy, and every Senate Republican should condemn the President's refusal to commit to give up power peacefully.

I would note that several of my Republican friends have stood up and

have said that there should be a peaceful transition of power, and I applaud them for that.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—MOTIONS TO RECONSIDER

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that with respect to the nominations confirmed this week, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE JOURNAL

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Journal of proceedings be approved to date.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNIZING GOLD SHAW FARM

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, agriculture has always been at the heart of Vermont's economy. For generations, families across Vermont have made a living through agriculture, tilling our rocky soil and raising livestock on our hillsides. Farming in Vermont has always been a challenging yet very rewarding way of life. Now more than ever, it is clear to see the obstacles faced by farmers. I would like to take a moment to recognize Gold Shaw Farm, a farm founded by a husband and wife team in northeastern Vermont. Morgan and Allison Gold, the owners of Gold Shaw Farm, have found a very interesting way to meet these challenges, supplement their agricultural income, adapt their practices, and share their work with the world.

Morgan and Allison Gold moved to Peacham, VT, and established their farm in 2016. On their 150-acre plot, the Golds raise chickens, geese, ducks, and sheep and cultivate a variety of vegetables and berries. Soon after they started farming, the Golds began filming their daily activities and posting them on YouTube. The farm may be small, but over the years, Gold Shaw Farm has amassed a very large and loyal fan base that tune in regularly to watch as Morgan and Allison collect eggs, chase ducks, and play with their dog, Toby.

Some of the farm's fans have even driven all the way to Peacham to buy eggs and visit the farm. With the help of their growing audience, the Golds hope to expand their farm into a larger sustainable operation. Starting and maintaining a farm is challenging work, but in the Golds' model, we see innovative and creative ways to not only document farming experiences, but share those experiences with the world and hopefully inspire a new generation of farmers. I look forward to tuning in to watch their progress.

Earlier this year, the Golds were profiled in *The New York Times*, and I ask unanimous consent that the article, "In a Wistful Age, Farmers Find a New Angle: Chores" be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the *New York Times*, Aug. 7, 2020]

IN A WISTFUL AGE, FARMERS FIND A NEW ANGLE: CHORES

(By Ellen Barry)

PEACHAM, VT.—The sweet smell of hay rose off the earth on a recent evening, as Morgan Gold strode across his farmyard in heavy boots. He crossed the paddock, scanning for new eggs, water levels, infected peck wounds, rips in the fence line.

But mainly—let's be honest—he was looking for content.

Though Mr. Gold sells poultry and eggs from his duck farm in Vermont's northeast corner, most of what he produces as a farmer is, well, entertainment.

Mr. Gold, who is short and stocky, with the good-natured ease of a standup comedian, does his chores while carrying a digital camera in one hand and murmuring into a microphone.

Then, twice a week, like clockwork, he posts a short video on YouTube about his exploits as a neophyte farmer, often highlighting failures or pratfalls. Keeping a close eye on analytics, he has boosted his YouTube audiences high enough to provide a steady advertising revenue of around \$2,500 to \$4,000 a month, about eight times what he earns from selling farm products.

This part of New England is rocky, hilly and isolated, and generations of small farmers have cast about for new ways to scrape out a living: the sleigh rides, the alpacas, the therapy ponies, the pick-your-own hemp. It is a new thing, though, to make farm life into reality TV.

Mr. Gold, 40, has learned the hard way—he tried to take a month off last winter—that any gap in his YouTube publication schedule results in a steep drop-off in audience. So he keeps a running list of themes that could be fodder for future videos. It reads, in part:

Should I Feed My Dog Eggs?

Don't Trust This Duck

My Homestead Is a Dumpster Fire

What Does My Guard Dog Do All Day?

He has learned, through trial and error, what works with an audience. The sheepdog-mounted GoPro didn't work. ("People were like, 10 seconds and I was puking," said his wife, Allison Ebrahimi Gold.) Slow, sumptuous drone footage of his sun-dappled 150 acres, land porn for wistful cubicle dwellers—that definitely works.

Character development works, as demonstrated by Mr. Gold's most popular video, "Our Freakishly Huge Duck (This Is Not NORMAL)," which, as he would put it, blew the doors off. Slow-motion footage of waggling goose butts, set to a bouncy, whimsical orchestral soundtrack, works.